


South Dakota Department of Social Services
CERTIFICATE OF LICENSE
as a
CHILD WELFARE AGENCY

This is to certify that Lutheran Social Services-New Alternatives is hereby granted
this license to conduct and maintain an Independent Living Preparation Program
located at 120 Philadelphia Street, Rapid City, SD 57701
for the period from June 1, 2024 to May 31, 2025.

This facility satisfactorily complies with requirements of the South Dakota Compiled Laws of 1967,
Sections 26-6-1 through 26-6-27 and the Child Care Standards as established by the
South Dakota Department of Social Services. This license is subject to revocation for
reasonable cause as cited in SDCL 1967; Section 26-6-23.
Issued this 5th day of May 2024.



License Number R 23001



Licensing & Accreditation Administrator

Department of Social Services
Office of Licensing & Accreditation
910 E. Sioux Avenue
Pierre, S.D. 57501-3940
605-773-4766

**LICENSING RENEWAL STUDY
INDEPENDENT LIVING PREPARATION PROGRAMS
ARSD 67:42:01, 67:42:13**

AGENCY NAME: Lutheran Social Services-New Alternatives (R23001)

DIRECTOR: Amber Kemp

1. Licensing Requirements - SDCL 26-6-11
- | | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> |
|---|--------------|-------------------|
| A. The following have been submitted to the Department: | <u> / </u> | <u> </u> |
| 1. Application materials for license. | <u> / </u> | <u> </u> |
| 2. Documentation of need. | <u> / </u> | <u> </u> |
| 3. Documentation that supervising agency is currently licensed as a Child Placement Agency, Group Care Center for Minors or a Residential Treatment Center. | <u> / </u> | <u> </u> |
| B. A statement of compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964 is included in the agency's policies or has been submitted to the Department. | <u> / </u> | <u> </u> |

Comments:

An application for licensure of Lutheran Social Services to operate New Alternatives as an Independent Living Preparation Program, dated April 15 2024 is on file in the licensing record. It contains a signed statement of compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

2. Agency Responsibilities – SDCL 26-6-11
- | | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> |
|--|--------------|-------------------|
| A. The building and equipment needs of the organization are adequately met. | <u> / </u> | <u> </u> |
| B. The agency has sufficient funds to meet the needs of participants in the program. | <u> / </u> | <u> </u> |

Comments:

Participants reside at 120 Philadelphia Street, Rapid City, South Dakota. The location offers six apartments which feature two bedrooms as well as on-site staff offices. The facility is adequately furnished and maintained to provide for the needs of the participants and program objectives.

3. Insurance - 67:42:01:35
- | | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> |
|---|--------------|-------------------|
| A. Vehicles used to transport clients have appropriate passenger liability insurance. | <u> / </u> | <u> </u> |
| B. The agency carries public liability insurance. | <u> / </u> | <u> </u> |

Comments:

Auto Liability, Commercial General Liability, and Umbrella Liability coverage is purchased from Marsh & McLennan Agency LLC. A copy of the Certificate of Insurance verifying coverage through July 1, 2024 is on file in the licensing record (Policy Number # HHS857826113).

4. Accounting Systems - 67:42:01:34
- | | <u>YES</u> | <u>NO</u> |
|--|--------------|-------------------|
| A. An audit of the accounts has been done in the past year by a CPA. | <u> / </u> | <u> </u> |

Comments:

An audit of Lutheran Social Services financial statements for the period ending June 30, 2023 and 2022 was completed by Eide Bailly LLP, CPA's on November 6, 2023. A copy of the audit report, including a summary of significant accounting policies is on file in the licensing record.

5. Staff Qualifications - 67:42:07:02, 67:42:07:07, 67:42:08:02, 67:42:09:07, 67:42:09:07.01, 67:42:09:08

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
A. Program Director		
1. Bachelor's degree in an accredited behavioral or social science area or equivalency and two years of relevant alternative child care experience if supervising agency is a group care center for minors; or	<u>J</u>	<u> </u>
2. Masters degree in an accredited behavioral or social science area and two years of relevant alternative child care experience, or a bachelors degree and four years experience if supervising agency is a residential treatment center; or	<u>J</u>	<u> </u>
3. Social work associate who works under supervision of a certified social worker or individual qualified to supervise a CSW-PIP candidate, who has two years administrative or supervisory experience, if supervising agency is a child placement agency.	<u>J</u>	<u> </u>

Comments:

Amber Kemp took over as the New Alternatives Program Director in November of 2018. Amber has a Master's Degree of Science in Agency Counseling and Human Resource Development.

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
B. Other Staff		
1. For a program supervised by a group or residential center, if under age twenty-one, is under direct supervision of an experienced staff; and 3 years older than any youth supervised.	<u>N/A</u>	<u> </u>
2. Meet the qualifications of child care or social work staff for the supervising agency.	<u>J</u>	<u> </u>

Comments:

In addition to the Program Director and Case Manager the facility employs eight direct support staff.

6. <u>Supervision Requirements</u> - 67:43:07:03, 67:42:08:03, 67:42:13:06, 67:42:13:07	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
A. Appropriate staff/child ratios are observed for programs located in the same living unit at a group care center or residential treatment center.	<u>N/A</u>	<u> </u>
B. No more than four participants are placed together in an off-site living unit.	<u>J</u>	<u> </u>
C. Participants meet with their supervisor at least once every two weeks with at least a monthly meeting in their living environment.	<u>J</u>	<u> </u>
Documentation of supervision includes:		
1. No reasonable cause to believe the residence or life style presents a risk to the participants health or safety;	<u>J</u>	<u> </u>
2. The participant is receiving necessary medical care;	<u>J</u>	<u> </u>
3. The treatment program provides for appropriate and sufficient services for the participant.	<u>J</u>	<u> </u>

D. Arrangements made for substitute staff during vacations, illness, or off-duty time of regular staff.

✓

Comments:

Lutheran Social Services written procedures relating to supervision requirements are in compliance with licensing rules.

7. Personnel Records - 67:42:07:07, 67:42:07:08, 67:42:07:09, 67:42:09:08.11, 67:42:09:11

A. Personnel records are maintained and contain the following:

YES

NO

1. Resume or application that includes educational background, personal, and employment history.
2. Job description.
3. Annual Performance Appraisal.
4. Verification of contact with at least three former employers or professional references if former employers not available.
5. Verification of screening for substantiated reports of child abuse or neglect.
6. Verification of submission of finger prints to DCI within fourteen days of employment.
7. Verification of sex offender registry checks.

✓

✓

✓

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✓

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✓

Comments:

Lutheran Social Services written procedures relating to personnel records are in compliance with licensing rules. The agency is licensed to serve adults above the age of eighteen and does not serve children under the age of 18 at this time.

8. Inservice Training - 67:42:07:04, 67:42:08:04, 67:42:09:10

YES

NO

- A. There is a written plan for orientation and training for staff and volunteers.
- B. Each employee has a documented record of an initial orientation to the agency within one month of the date of hire that includes the facility's functions, services, community resources and specific job functions.
- C. Each employee has a documented record of at least the minimum number of hours of annual in-service training as required for staff of the supervising agency or facility.
- D. Each employee receives in-service training during the first year of employment that includes all of the areas required in 67:42:07:04 or 67:42:09:10.
- E. Training for all employees after the first year of employment is determined by an annual evaluation and is competency based.

✓

✓

✓

✓

✓

Comments:

Lutheran Social Services written procedures relating to in-service training are in compliance with licensing

rules.

9. <u>Reporting Suspected Child Abuse or Neglect and Changes in Circumstances</u> - 67:42:01:12, 67:42:07:05, 67:42:07:15, 67:42:07:16	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
A. Each employee is aware of the requirement to immediately report incidents of suspected child abuse or neglect.	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
B. The facility is aware of its need to report any changes of circumstances that may affect its licensed status.	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>

Comments:

Lutheran Social Services written procedures relating to reporting of suspected incidents of child abuse or neglect are in compliance with licensing rules.

10. <u>Treatment</u> - 67:42:01:01(3), 67:42:01:21, 67:42:13:03, 67:42:13:04, 67:42:13:05, 67:42:13:08	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
A. There are written procedures relating to:		
1. Criteria used to select participants in the program.	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
2. The approach used to assess the appropriateness of the placement.	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
3. The nature and frequency of supervision provided to participants.	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
4. Services available to participants.	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
5. An explanation of living environments provided by the program.	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
6. The crisis response system ensuring participant's 24-hour access to program personnel.	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
B. A full assessment of participant's life skills is completed prior to placement.	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
C. Case records are maintained and include the following:		
1. Face sheet/application form with identifying information.	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
2. A copy of the assessment of the participant's life skills.	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
3. Case service plan is signed and involves the placing agency, adolescent, ILPP and parent or guardian.	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
4. Case service plans are established within 14 days of placement.	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
5. Case service plans state roles and responsibilities, goals and services, financial plan, and projected length of stay.	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
6. Case service plan is reviewed and updated and progress reports are submitted to placement agency every three months.	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
7. Documentation of Supervision.	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
8. A signed authorization for medical care.	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
9. Residents are provided training in emergency procedures.	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
D. Records are kept in a locked file.	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>
E. The interstate compact administrator has been contacted before acceptance of an out-of-state child.	<u>✓</u>	<u> </u>

Comments:

Records reviewed contained documentation to verify compliance with the above requirements.

11. <u>Volunteers</u> - 67:42:07:14, 67:42:09:09	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
A. Have a written job description with specific responsibilities.	<u>J</u>	<u> </u>
B. Supervised and evaluated by an experienced staff member.	<u>J</u>	<u> </u>
C. Three documented unrelated references.	<u>J</u>	<u> </u>
D. Screening for substantiated reports of child abuse or neglect.	<u>J</u>	<u> </u>
E. Criminal record checks completed if appropriate.	<u>J</u>	<u> </u>
H. Documented orientation.	<u>J</u>	<u> </u>
I. Documented in-service training as per requirements for supervising agency.	<u>J</u>	<u> </u>
J. Informed of obligation to report suspected CA/N.	<u>J</u>	<u> </u>
K. Verification of sex offender registry checks.	<u>J</u>	<u> </u>

Comments:

New Alternatives did not use volunteers in the last year.

12. <u>Physical Facility</u> - 67:42:07:11, 67:42:07:12, 67:42:13:07	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
A. Off-site facilities meet the requirements of 67:42:13:07.	<u>J</u>	<u> </u>
B. There is a current approved fire inspection for the supervising agency when living environment is on-site.	<u>NA</u>	<u> </u>
C. There is a current approved health inspection for the supervising agency when living environment is on-site.	<u>NA</u>	<u> </u>
D. A fire escape plan is posted.	<u>J</u>	<u> </u>
E. Each participant has his own bed.	<u>J</u>	<u> </u>

Comments:

Living arrangements are considered off-site facilities.

13. Recommendations:

New Alternatives Independent Living Program has been found to be in substantial compliance with licensing rules.

It is recommended that a satisfactory license be issued to Lutheran Social Services to operate an Independent Living Preparation Program in Rapid City, South Dakota to provide services for youth ages eighteen to twenty-one years.

Completed By: Kevin Kanta 05/1/24
Kevin Kanta, Program Specialist

Date of On-Site Visit: 4/26/24

Program Manager: Muriel Nelson